

15-213

"The course that gives CMU its Zip!"

Machine-Level Programming II: Control Flow Sept. 13, 2006

Topics

- Condition Codes
 - Setting
 - Testing
- Control Flow
 - If-then-else
 - Varieties of Loops
 - Switch Statements
- x86-64 features
 - conditional move
 - different loop implementation

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Condition Codes

Single Bit Registers

CF	Carry Flag	SF	Sign Flag
ZF	Zero Flag	OF	Overflow Flag

Implicitly Set By Arithmetic Operations

addl Src,Dest	addq Src,Dest
C analog: $t = a + b$	($a = \text{Src}$, $b = \text{Dest}$)

- CF set if carry out from most significant bit
 - Used to detect unsigned overflow
- ZF set if $t == 0$
- SF set if $t < 0$
- OF set if two's complement overflow
 - ($a > 0 \ \&\& \ b > 0 \ \&\& \ t < 0$)
 - || ($a < 0 \ \&\& \ b < 0 \ \&\& \ t \geq 0$)

Not set by lea, inc, or dec instructions

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Setting Condition Codes (cont.)

Explicit Setting by Compare Instruction

cmpl Src2,Src1 cmpq Src2,Src1

- cmpl b,a like computing $a-b$ without setting destination
- CF set if carry out from most significant bit
 - Used for unsigned comparisons
- ZF set if $a == b$
- SF set if $(a-b) < 0$
- OF set if two's complement overflow
 - ($a > 0 \ \&\& \ b < 0 \ \&\& \ (a-b) < 0$) || ($a < 0 \ \&\& \ b > 0 \ \&\& \ (a-b) > 0$)

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Setting Condition Codes (cont.)

Explicit Setting by Test instruction

testl Src2,Src1

testq Src2,Src1

- Sets condition codes based on value of $\text{Src1} \ \&\& \ \text{Src2}$
 - Useful to have one of the operands be a mask
- testl b,a like computing $a\&b$ without setting destination
- ZF set when $a\&b == 0$
- SF set when $a\&b < 0$

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Reading Condition Codes

SetX Instructions

- Set single byte based on combinations of condition codes

SetX	Condition	Description
sete	ZF	Equal / Zero
setne	~ZF	Not Equal / Not Zero
sets	SF	Negative
setns	~SF	Nonnegative
setg	~(SF^OF) & ~ZF	Greater (Signed)
setge	~(SF^OF)	Greater or Equal (Signed)
setl	(SF^OF)	Less (Signed)
setle	(SF^OF) ZF	Less or Equal (Signed)
seta	~CF & ~ZF	Above (unsigned)
setb	CF	Below (unsigned)

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Reading condition codes: x86-64

SetX Instructions

- Set single byte based on combinations of condition codes
 - Does not alter remaining 7 bytes

```
int gt (long x, long y)
{
    return x > y;
}
```

```
long lgt (long x, long y)
{
    return x > y;
}
```

- x86-64 arguments
 - x in %rdi
 - y in %rsi

Body (same for both)

(32-bit instructions set high order 32 bits to 0)

```
xorl %eax, %eax      # eax = 0
cmpq %rsi, %rdi      # Compare x : y
setg %al              # al = x > y
```

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Reading Condition Codes (Cont.)

SetX Instructions

- Set single byte based on combinations of condition codes
- One of 8 addressable byte registers
 - Embedded within first 4 integer registers
 - Does not alter remaining 3 bytes
 - Typically use movzbl to finish job

```
int gt (int x, int y)
{
    return x > y;
}
```

Body

```
movl 12(%ebp),%eax  # eax = y
cmpl %eax,8(%ebp)  # Compare x : y
setg %al             # al = x > y
movzbl %al,%eax    # Zero rest of %eax
```

Note
inverted
ordering!

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Jumping

jX Instructions

- Jump to different part of code depending on condition codes

jX	Condition	Description
jmp	1	Unconditional
je	ZF	Equal / Zero
jne	~ZF	Not Equal / Not Zero
js	SF	Negative
jns	~SF	Nonnegative
jg	~(SF^OF) & ~ZF	Greater (Signed)
jge	~(SF^OF)	Greater or Equal (Signed)
jl	(SF^OF)	Less (Signed)
jle	(SF^OF) ZF	Less or Equal (Signed)
ja	~CF & ~ZF	Above (unsigned)
jb	CF	Below (unsigned)

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Conditional Branch Example

```
int absdiff(
    int x, int y)
{
    int result;
    if (x > y) {
        result = x-y;
    } else {
        result = y-x;
    }
    return result;
}
```

```
absdiff:
    pushl %ebp
    movl %esp, %ebp
    movl 8(%ebp), %edx
    movl 12(%ebp), %eax
    cmpl %eax, %edx
    jle .L7
    subl %eax, %edx
    movl %edx, %eax
.L8:
    leave
    ret
.L7:
    subl %edx, %eax
    jmp .L8
```

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Conditional Branch Example (Cont.)

```
int goto_ad(int x, int y)
{
    int result;
    if (x<=y) goto Else;
    result = x-y;
Exit:
    return result;
Else:
    result = y-x;
    goto Exit;
}
```

- C allows “goto” as means of transferring control
 - Closer to machine-level programming style
- Generally considered bad coding style

```
# x in %edx, y in %eax
cmpl %eax, %edx # Compare x:y
jle .L7 # <= Goto Else
subl %eax, %edx # x-= y
movl %edx, %eax # result = x
.L8: # Exit:
.L7: # Else:
    subl %edx, %eax # result = y-x
    jmp .L8 # Goto Exit
```

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General Conditional Expression Translation

C Code

```
val = Test ? Then-Expr ? Else-Expr;
```

```
val = x>y ? x-y : y-x;
```

Goto Version

```
nt = !Test;
if (nt) goto Else;
val = Then-Expr;
Done:
    ...
Else:
    val = Else-Expr;
    goto Done;
```

- Test is expression returning integer
 - = 0 interpreted as false
 - ≠ 0 interpreted as true
- Create separate code regions for then & else expressions
- Execute appropriate one

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Conditionals: x86-64

```
int absdiff(
    int x, int y)
{
    int result;
    if (x > y) {
        result = x-y;
    } else {
        result = y-x;
    }
    return result;
}
```

```
absdiff: # x in %edi, y in %esi
movl %edi, %eax # v = x
movl %esi, %edx # ve = y
subl %esi, %eax # v -= y
subl %edi, %edx # ve -= x
cmpl %esi, %edi # x:y
cmovle %edx, %eax # v=ve if <=
ret
```

- Conditional move instruction
 - `cmove src, dest`
 - Move value from src to dest if condition c holds
 - More efficient than conditional branching
 - » Simple & predictable control flow

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General Form with Conditional Move

C Code

```
val = Test ? Then-Expr ? Else-Expr;
```

Conditional Move Version

```
val = Then-Expr;
vale = Else-Expr;
val = vale if !Test;
```

- Both values get computed
- Overwrite then-value with else-value if condition doesn't hold

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Limitations of Conditional Move

```
val = Then-Expr;
vale = Else-Expr;
val = vale if !Test;
```

```
int xgty = 0, xltey = 0;

int absdiff_se(
    int x, int y)
{
    int result;
    if (x > y) {
        xgty++; result = x-y;
    } else {
        xltey++; result = y-x;
    }
    return result;
}
```

Don't use when:

- Then-Expr or Else-Expr has side effect
- Then-Expr or Else-Expr requires significant computation

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Implementing Loops

IA32

- All loops translated into form based on “do-while”

x86-64

- Also make use of “jump to middle”

Why the Difference

- IA32 compiler developed for machine where all operations costly
- x86-64 compiler developed for machine where unconditional branches incur (almost) no overhead

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“Do-While” Loop Example

C Code

```
int fact_do(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
    do {
        result *= x;
        x = x-1;
    } while (x > 1);

    return result;
}
```

Goto Version

```
int fact_goto(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
loop:
    result *= x;
    x = x-1;
    if (x > 1)
        goto loop;
    return result;
}
```

- Use backward branch to continue looping
- Only take branch when “while” condition holds

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“Do-While” Loop Compilation

Goto Version

```
int
fact_goto(int x)
{
    int result = 1;

loop:
    result *= x;
    x = x-1;
    if (x > 1)
        goto loop;

    return result;
}
```

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Assembly

```
fact_goto:
    pushl %ebp          # Setup
    movl %esp,%ebp      # Setup
    movl $1,%eax         # eax = 1
    movl 8(%ebp),%edx  # edx = x

L11:
    imull %edx,%eax    # result *= x
    decl %edx           # x--
    cmpl $1,%edx         # Compare x : 1
    jg L11               # if > goto loop

    movl %ebp,%esp      # Finish
    popl %ebp            # Finish
    ret                  # Finish
```

Registers

%edx	x
%eax	result

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General “Do-While” Translation

C Code

```
do
    Body
    while (Test);
```

Goto Version

```
loop:
    Body
    if (Test)
        goto loop
```

- Body can be any C statement

- Typically compound statement:

```
{
    Statement1;
    Statement2;
    ...
    Statementn;
}
```

- Test is expression returning integer
= 0 interpreted as false ≠ 0 interpreted as true

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“While” Loop Example #1

C Code

```
int fact_while(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
    while (x > 1) {

        result *= x;
        x = x-1;
    };

    return result;
}
```

First Goto Version

```
int fact_while_goto(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
loop:
    if (!(x > 1))
        goto done;
    result *= x;
    x = x-1;
    goto loop;
done:
    return result;
}
```

- Is this code equivalent to the do-while version?
- Must jump out of loop if test fails

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Alternative “While” Loop Translation

C Code

```
int fact_while(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
    while (x > 1) {
        result *= x;
        x = x-1;
    };
    return result;
}
```

- Historically used by GCC
- Uses same inner loop as do-while version
- Guards loop entry with extra test

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Second Goto Version

```
int fact_while_goto2(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
    if (!(x > 1))
        goto done;
loop:
    result *= x;
    x = x-1;
    if (x > 1)
        goto loop;
done:
    return result;
}
```

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General “While” Translation

C Code

```
while (Test)
  Body
```

Do-While Version

```
if (!Test)
  goto done;
do
  Body
  while (Test);
done:
```

Goto Version

```
if (!Test)
  goto done;
loop:
  Body
  if (Test)
    goto loop;
done:
```

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New Style “While” Loop Translation

C Code

```
int fact_while(int x)
{
  int result = 1;
  while (x > 1) {
    result *= x;
    x = x-1;
  };
  return result;
}
```

Goto Version

```
int fact_while_goto3(int x)
{
  int result = 1;
  goto middle;
loop:
  result *= x;
  x = x-1;
middle:
  if (x > 1)
    goto loop;
  return result;
}
```

- Recent technique for GCC
 - Both IA32 & x86-64
- First iteration jumps over body computation within loop

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Jump-to-Middle While Translation

C Code

```
while (Test)
  Body
```

- Avoids duplicating test code
- Unconditional goto incurs no performance penalty
- for loops compiled in similar fashion

Goto Version

```
goto middle;
loop:
  Body
middle:
  if (Test)
    goto loop;
```

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Jump-to-Middle Example

```
int fact_while(int x)
{
  int result = 1;
  while (x > 1) {
    result *= x;
    x--;
  };
  return result;
}
```

- Most common strategy for recent IA32 & x86-64 code generation

```
# x in %edx, result in %eax
    jmp  L34      # goto Middle
L35:                           # Loop:
    imull %edx, %eax # result *= x
    decl  %edx       # x--
L34:                           # Middle:
    cmpl  $1, %edx  # x:1
    jg   L35      # if >, goto Loop
```

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“For” Loop Example

```
/* Compute x raised to nonnegative power p */
int
ipwr_for(int x, unsigned p)
{
    int result;
    for (result = 1; p != 0; p = p>>1) {
        if (p & 0x1)
            result *= x;
        x = x*x;
    }
    return result;
}
```

Algorithm

- Exploit property that $p = p_0 + 2p_1 + 4p_2 + \dots + 2^{n-1}p_{n-1}$
- Gives: $x^p = z_0 \cdot z_1^2 \cdot (z_2^2)^2 \cdot \dots \cdot ((z_{n-1}^2)^2)^2$
- $z_i = 1$ when $p_i = 0$
- $z_i = x$ when $p_i = 1$
- Complexity $O(\log p)$

$n-1$ times

Example

$$\begin{aligned} 3^{10} &= 3^2 * 3^8 \\ &= 3^2 * ((3^2)^2)^2 \end{aligned}$$

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ipwr Computation

```
/* Compute x raised to nonnegative power p */
int
ipwr_for(int x, unsigned p)
{
    int result;
    for (result = 1; p != 0; p = p>>1) {
        if (p & 0x1)
            result *= x;
        x = x*x;
    }
    return result;
}
```

result	x	p
1	3	10
1	9	5
9	81	2
9	6561	1
531441	43046721	0

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“For” Loop Example

```
int result;
for (result = 1;
     p != 0;
     p = p>>1)
{
    if (p & 0x1)
        result *= x;
    x = x*x;
}
```

General Form

```
for (Init; Test; Update )
    Body
```

Init

`result = 1`

Test

`p != 0`

Update

`p = p >> 1`

Body

```
{
    if (p & 0x1)
        result *= x;
    x = x*x;
}
```

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“For”→“While”→“Do-While”

For Version

```
for (Init; Test; Update )
    Body
```

While Version

```
Init;
while (Test) {
    Body
    Update ;
}
```

Do-While Version

```
Init;
if (!Test)
    goto done;
do {
    Body
    Update ;
} while (Test)
done:
```

Goto Version

```
Init;
if (!Test)
    goto done;
loop:
    Body
    Update ;
    if (Test)
        goto loop;
done:
```

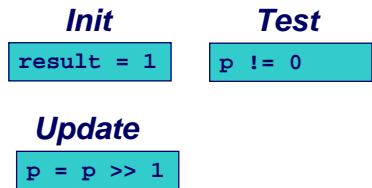
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“For” Loop Compilation #1

Goto Version

```
Init;
if (!Test)
    goto done;
loop:
Body
Update ;
if (Test)
    goto loop;
done:
```



```
result = 1;
if (p == 0)
    goto done;
loop:
    if (p & 0x1)
        result *= x;
    x = x*x;
    p = p >> 1;
    if (p != 0)
        goto loop;
done:
```

Body

```
{
    if (p & 0x1)
        result *= x;
    x = x*x;
}
```

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“For” → “While” (Jump-to-Middle)

For Version

```
for (Init; Test; Update )
    Body
```

While Version

```
Init;
while (Test) {
    Body
    Update ;
}
```

Goto Version

```
Init;
goto middle;
loop:
Body
Update ;
middle:
    if (Test)
        goto loop;
done:
```

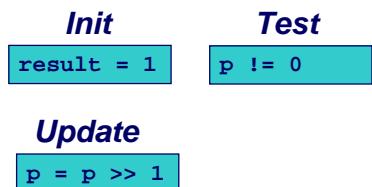
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“For” Loop Compilation #2

Goto Version

```
Init;
if (!Test)
    goto done;
loop:
Body
Update ;
if (Test)
    goto loop;
done:
```



```
result = 1;
goto middle;
loop:
    if (p & 0x1)
        result *= x;
    x = x*x;
    p = p >> 1;
middle:
    if (p != 0)
        goto loop;
done:
```

Body

```
{
    if (p & 0x1)
        result *= x;
    x = x*x;
}
```

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Switch Statements

Implementation Options

- Series of conditionals
 - Organize in tree structure
 - Logarithmic performance
- Jump Table
 - Lookup branch target
 - Constant time
 - Possible when cases are small integer constants
- GCC
 - Picks one based on case structure

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```

long switch_eg
    (long x, long y, long z)
{
    long w = 1;
    switch(x) {
        case 1:
            w = y*z;
            break;
        case 2:
            w = y/z;
            /* Fall Through */
        case 3:
            w += z;
            break;
        case 5:
        case 6:
            w -= z;
            break;
        default:
            w = 2;
    }
    return w;
}

```

Switch Statement Example

Features

- Multiple case labels
- Fall through cases
- Missing cases

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Jump Table Structure

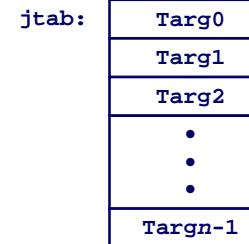
Switch Form

```

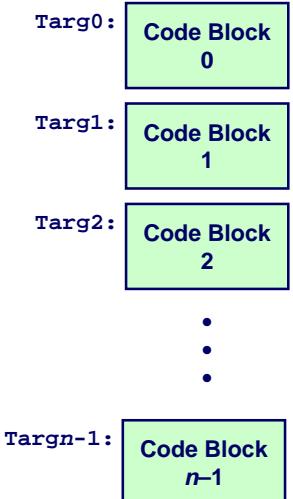
switch(x) {
    case val_0:
        Block 0
    case val_1:
        Block 1
    ...
    case val_n-1:
        Block n-1
}

```

Jump Table



Jump Targets



Approx. Translation

```

target = JTab[x];
goto *target;

```

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Switch Statement Example (IA32)

```

long switch_eg
    (long x, long y, long z)
{
    long w = 1;
    switch(x) {
        . . .
    }
    return w;
}

```

Setup:

```

switch_eg:
    pushl %ebp          # Setup
    movl %esp, %ebp      # Setup
    pushl %ebx          # Setup
    movl $1, %ebx        # w = 1
    movl 8(%ebp), %edx  # edx = x
    movl 16(%ebp), %ecx # ecx = z
    cmpl $6, %edx        # x:6
    ja .L61              # if > goto default
    jmp *.L62(%edx,4)    # goto JTab[x]

```

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Assembly Setup Explanation

Table Structure

- Each target requires 4 bytes
- Base address at .L62

Jumping

- ```

jmp .L61

```
- Jump target is denoted by label .L61

```

jmp *.L62(%edx,4)

```

  - Start of jump table denoted by label .L62
  - Register %edx holds x
  - Must scale by factor of 4 to get offset into table
  - Fetch target from effective Address .L61 + x\*4
    - Only for 0 ≤ x ≤ 6

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# Jump Table

## Table Contents

```
.section .rodata
.align 4
.L62:
.long .L61 # x = 0
.long .L56 # x = 1
.long .L57 # x = 2
.long .L58 # x = 3
.long .L61 # x = 4
.long .L60 # x = 5
.long .L60 # x = 6
```

```
switch(x) {
 case 1: // .L56
 w = y*z;
 break;
 case 2: // .L57
 w = y/z;
 /* Fall Through */
 case 3: // .L58
 w += z;
 break;
 case 5:
 case 6: // .L60
 w -= z;
 break;
 default: // .L61
 w = 2;
}
```

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# Code Blocks (Partial)

```
switch(x) {
 . .
 case 2: // .L57
 w = y/z;
 /* Fall Through */
 case 3: // .L58
 w += z;
 break;
 . .
 default: // .L61
 w = 2;
}
```

```
.L61: // Default case
 movl $2, %ebx # w = 2
 movl %ebx, %eax # Return w
 popl %ebx
 leave
 ret
.L57: // Case 2:
 movl 12(%ebp), %eax # y
 cltd # Div prep
 idivl %ecx # y/z
 movl %eax, %ebx # w = y/z
 # Fall through
.L58: // Case 3:
 addl %ecx, %ebx # w+= z
 movl %ebx, %eax # Return w
 popl %ebx
 leave
 ret
```

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# Code Blocks (Rest)

```
switch(x) {
 case 1: // .L56
 w = y*z;
 break;
 . .
 case 5:
 case 6: // .L60
 w -= z;
 break;
 . .
}
```

```
.L60: // Cases 5&6:
 subl %ecx, %ebx # w -= z
 movl %ebx, %eax # Return w
 popl %ebx
 leave
 ret
.L56: // Case 1:
 movl 12(%ebp), %ebx # w = y
 imull %ecx, %ebx # w*= z
 movl %ebx, %eax # Return w
 popl %ebx
 leave
 ret
```

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# x86-64 Switch Implementation

- Same general idea, adapted to 64-bit code
- Table entries 64 bits (pointers)
- Cases use revised code

## Jump Table

```
.section .rodata
.align 8
.L62:
.quad .L55 # x = 0
.quad .L50 # x = 1
.quad .L51 # x = 2
.quad .L52 # x = 3
.quad .L55 # x = 4
.quad .L54 # x = 5
.quad .L54 # x = 6
```

```
switch(x) {
 case 1: // .L50
 w = y*z;
 break;
 . .
}
```

```
.L50: // Case 1:
 movq %rsi, %r8 # w = y
 imulq %rdx, %r8 # w *= z
 movq %r8, %rax # Return w
 ret
```

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# IA32 Object Code

## Setup

- Label .L61 becomes address 0x8048630
- Label .L62 becomes address 0x80488dc

## Assembly Code

```
switch_eg:
 ...
 ja .L61 # if > goto default
 jmp *.L62(%edx,4) # goto JTab[x]
```

## Disassembled Object Code

```
08048610 <switch_eg>:
 ...
 8048622: 77 0c ja 8048630
 8048624: ff 24 95 dc 88 04 08 jmp *0x80488dc(%edx,4)
```

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# IA32 Object Code (cont.)

## Jump Table

- Doesn't show up in disassembled code
- Can inspect using GDB
  - gdb asm-cntl
  - (gdb) x/7xw 0x80488dc
    - Examine 7 hexadecimal format "words" (4-bytes each)
    - Use command "help x" to get format documentation

0x80488dc:

0x08048630  
0x08048650  
0x0804863a  
0x08048642  
0x08048630  
0x08048649  
0x08048649

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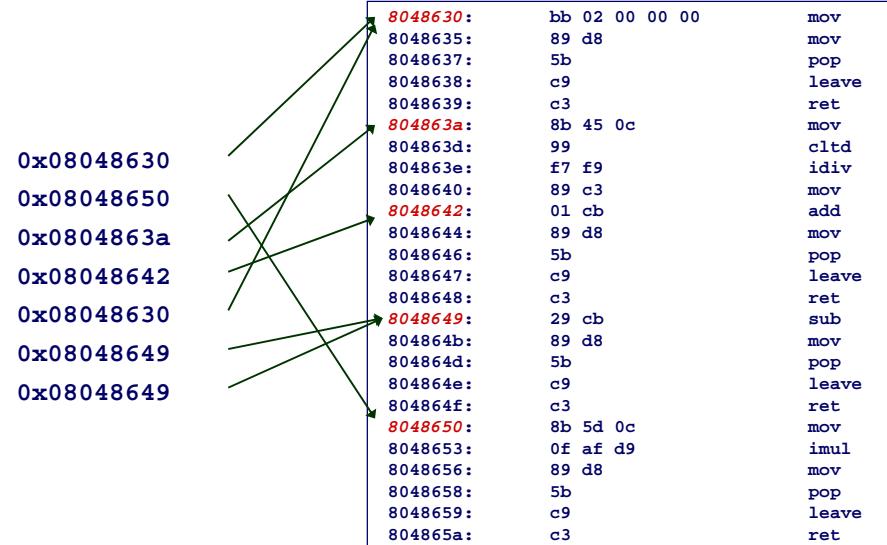
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## Disassembled Targets

```
8048630: bb 02 00 00 00 mov $0x2,%ebx
8048635: 89 d8 mov %ebx,%eax
8048637: 5b pop %ebx
8048638: c9 leave
8048639: c3 ret
804863a: 8b 45 0c mov 0xc(%ebp),%eax
804863d: 99 cltd
804863e: f7 f9 idiv %ecx
8048640: 89 c3 mov %eax,%ebx
8048642: 01 cb add %ecx,%ebx
8048644: 89 d8 mov %ebx,%eax
8048646: 5b pop %ebx
8048647: c9 leave
8048648: c3 ret
8048649: 29 cb sub %ecx,%ebx
804864b: 89 d8 mov %ebx,%eax
804864d: 5b pop %ebx
804864e: c9 leave
804864f: c3 ret
8048650: 8b 5d 0c mov 0xc(%ebp),%ebx
8048653: 0f af d9 imul %ecx,%ebx
8048656: 89 d8 mov %ebx,%eax
8048658: 5b pop %ebx
8048659: c9 leave
804865a: c3 ret
```

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## Matching Disassembled Targets



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# x86-64 Object Code

## Setup

- Label .L61 becomes address 0x0000000000400716
- Label .L62 becomes address 0x0000000000400990

## Assembly Code

```
switch_eg:
 ...
 ja .L55 # if > goto default
 jmp *.L56(,%rdi,8) # goto JTab[x]
```

## Disassembled Object Code

```
0000000000400700 <switch_eg>:
 ...
 40070d: 77 07 ja 400716
 40070f: ff 24 fd 90 09 40 00 jmpq *0x400990(,%rdi,8)
```

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# x86-64 Object Code (cont.)

## Jump Table

- Can inspect using GDB
- ```
gdb asm-cntl  
(gdb) x/7xg 0x400990
```
- Examine 7 hexadecimal format “giant words” (8-bytes each)
 - Use command “help x” to get format documentation

0x400990:

```
0x0000000000400716  
0x0000000000400739  
0x0000000000400720  
0x000000000040072b  
0x0000000000400716  
0x0000000000400732  
0x0000000000400732
```

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Sparse Switch Example

```
/* Return x/111 if x is multiple  
   && <= 999. -1 otherwise */  
int div111(int x)  
{  
    switch(x) {  
    case 0: return 0;  
    case 111: return 1;  
    case 222: return 2;  
    case 333: return 3;  
    case 444: return 4;  
    case 555: return 5;  
    case 666: return 6;  
    case 777: return 7;  
    case 888: return 8;  
    case 999: return 9;  
    default: return -1;  
    }  
}
```

- Not practical to use jump table
 - Would require 1000 entries
- Obvious translation into if-then-else would have max. of 9 tests

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Sparse Switch Code (IA32)

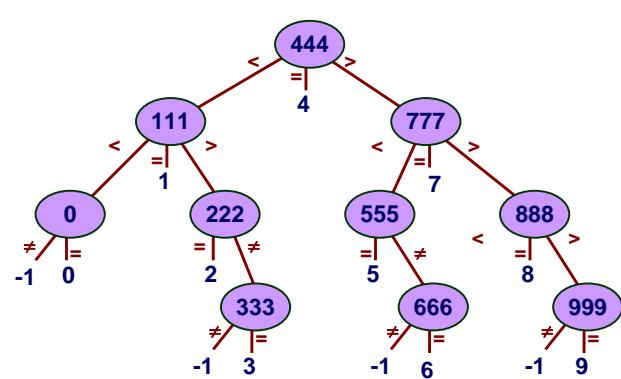
```
movl 8(%ebp),%eax # get x  
cmpb $444,%eax    # x:444  
je L5  
jg L16  
cmpl $111,%eax    # x:111  
je L5  
jg L17  
testl %eax,%eax    # x:0  
je L4  
jmp L14  
...  
.
```

- Compares x to possible case values
- Jumps different places depending on outcomes

```
...  
L5:  
  movl $1,%eax  
  jmp L19  
L6:  
  movl $2,%eax  
  jmp L19  
L7:  
  movl $3,%eax  
  jmp L19  
L8:  
  movl $4,%eax  
  jmp L19  
...  
.
```

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Sparse Switch Code Structure



- Organizes cases as binary tree
- Logarithmic performance

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Summarizing

C Control

- if-then-else
- do-while
- while, for
- switch

Assembler Control

- Conditional jump
- Conditional move
- Indirect jump

Compiler

- Must generate assembly code to implement more complex control

Standard Techniques

- IA32 loops converted to do-while form
- x86-64 loops use jump-to-middle
- Large switch statements use jump tables

Conditions in CISC

- CISC machines generally have condition code registers

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